

TOWN OF ROCKLAND

Board of Selectmen

Town Hall
242 Union Street
Rockland, Massachusetts 02370

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S OPEN SESSION held on Monday, August 22, 2005 at 7:00 PM in the H. Bernard Monahan Memorial Room, Town Hall, 242 Union Street, Rockland, Massachusetts 02370.

ATTENDANCE: Louis U. Valanzola, Lawrence J. Chaffee, Mary A. Parsons, Keven D. Pratt and Kelli A. O'Brien-McKinnon

Chairman Lou Valanzola led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vicious Dog Hearing: BOS – Are the Chandlers present? Mr. Plante – They were sent a registered letter and we received the green card back. I would suggest that you go forward even though they are not here yet. The dog officer is here.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to open hearing

Second: Mrs. Parsons

Vote: 3-0 (Recusal) Mr. Pratt and Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon excused themselves

Animal Control Officer Patricia Whittemore: We had a complaint from Keven Pratt of 100 Hartsuff Street on Friday, July 22nd. I was dispatched to the scene. There were two dogs in the Pratt's front yard (a black dog that I did not recognize and a white & black Terrier mix that I recognized as "Lola" owned by the Chandlers). As I approached the animals I chased the terrier to the property line of 84 & 90 Hartsuff Street. The Doberman ran in the front of 90 Hartsuff Street, the Terrier stopped started barking and was let into the back door of the Chandler residence. I walked back to the property at 100 Hartsuff Street and across the lawn of 90 Hartsuff Street and the Doberman was just standing in the driveway. I went up to the Chandler's front door and knocked, the main door was open and the screen door was in front of me. When I knocked the Terrier came towards the screen showing his teeth and gums (enough to attack me). I took my rabies pole and put it against the screen so the dog couldn't jump through to attack. Mrs. Chandler came to the front door and I told her the reason why I was there and explained that the dog was supposed to be kept in a fenced area. I also explained that I chased it through the Pratt's yard to her yard and saw her let the dog in at the back door. She stated to me, "Why don't you go pick up all the other dogs in Town" and told me the dog was not out. She said, "can't you see that the dog is right here with me?" I told her that I would be holding a hearing with the BOS and that fines would be issued. I sent them a fine and as of yet it has not been paid. Mr. Valanzola – Has anyone asked them why they haven't erected the pen or fenced in area that they agreed to back in December? Officer Whittemore – They have been ignorant and uncooperative to law enforcement and the police officers in the Town of Rockland. They just don't care about us and their

neighbors. Mr. Valanzola – We were looking at these letters from kids around Hartsuff and being chased by this dog and.....Officer Whittemore – Correct, they just stand at the door and watch them while they attack. Mr. Plante – requested that these letters be read for the record. Letters were read into the record from Kerry & Robert Griffin of 99 Hartsuff Street and Holly Robbins of 109 Hartsuff Street

The Chandler's just arrived. Mrs. Parsons asked if she had a picture of the dog. Mrs. Chandler – I do but not with me. She's a small Terrier. She indicated the size of the Terrier with her hands. Mrs. Parsons – The last time you were here you were asked to put up some kind of fencing. Mrs. Chandler – We have a 6ft stockade fence all around the side lot – all the way around my side yard. I can explain if you will let me. It was in the morning I got up with my husband – he had a business meeting. I told him I wasn't feeling good (under doctor's medication) I went back to bed and feel asleep. I heard the doorbell and my dog barking, I wasn't going to answer the door because I just didn't feel good and I was groggy. Then I thought it might be the UPS man because I was expecting something. I went to the door and the Dog Officer was there. I didn't realize who she was and she told me my dog had gone over to Mr. Pratt's yard. I said "my dog is right here, I don't know, she may have gotten out." Then she said I have another dog which I don't. It belongs to the people in the next house and they were playing. Later on I found out from my granddaughter that she had come over when I was in bed sleeping. I asked her if she let Lola out and she said she did and Lola was playing with her dog. She said they played for a while and she knew Lola wasn't supposed to be out so I brought her back in. That is all I know. We have the whole side yard fenced in and it's big. The dog goes out through the cellar way. There is not even a gate there so in bad weather we can put her out that way. I'm sorry she got out; it's just one of those things that's all. Mr. Valanzola – Was this the only time the dog had gotten out since July 22nd? Mrs. Parsons to Officer Whittemore – Concerning the other dog – do you know who the owner is? Officer Whittemore – Not off hand but he was also issued a citation. Mrs. Parsons – So the people who own that dog know that the dog is not to be running loose? Officer Whittemore – Correct. Mrs. Parsons – As I remember from the last time, there was a question about a lot of dogs running loose on that street. Officer Whittemore – Nothing ever came of that, I don't even know if that was true or not. Mrs. Parsons – Have you taken a ride down there every once in a while to check and see if there are any dogs running loose? Officer Whittemore – Yes. Mrs. Chandler – For my dog to get over to Mr. Pratt's yard you don't even need to go in the street. We own the house next to us and it's all open, this is the driveway side; not the side that's fenced in and he played with the dog next door and our property abuts Mr. Pratt's. It was an accident. Mr. Valanzola – Is it completely enclosed? Is there any way the dog could get out? Mrs. Chandler – No, not where the exterior fencing is but it went out the other door. Mrs. Parsons – Because your granddaughter opened the door and the dog went out. Mr. Chandler – She's only 5 years old. Mrs. Chandler – She knew that he wasn't supposed to be out, she told me. I'm sorry it happened, I mean, he's not Pit Bull or a Rottweiler. Some people say she bit them but I've never gotten any doctor's reports or anything that she ever did like Mr. Pratt has said. She loves to play with children...she plays with them all the time. Mr. Valanzola – We have a couple of letters here stating differently. Again, to a small child ... it might not seem like a large dog to you but to a small child it could. If he's growling...and we have letters here and the Animal Control Officer saying that the animal was growling at her when she approached the door. Mr. Chandler – She would growl at any strange

person coming to the door. Mrs. Chandler – She'll bark when someone comes to the door - no question about that. But Lola was in the house when the dog officer came to the door. I showed her...she saw the dog. I really and truly didn't know how the dog got out. Mr. Pratt – Mr. Chairman on the day that the dog was seen loose by the dog officer, the dog did approach my wife in the driveway and growled and bared its teeth. My wife picked up a rock because she was afraid. As far as it not getting out of the yard, there is no fence between my property and their property and no fence between the next house and their house. Mr. Valanzola – This is where I am getting lost. Is there an area that it is completely enclosed? Mrs. Chandler – On the other side of the house. You can come by and see it. It's big; it's the whole side lot. It is not the driveway side. Mr. Valanzola – With the exception of this one day she is always let out in this area? Mrs. Chandler – If he's out working in the yard the dog likes to be with him. Mr. Pratt – There have been other occasions that the dog has been seen loose. Mr. Robbins (neighbor across the street) notified me after the dog incident that the dog had gone through my driveway and into the back. I didn't see that, I had gone to Hartsuff Park. This was after this incident that the dog was seen walking in my yard. Mrs. Parsons – Mr. Robbins needs to notify the Animal Control Officer to lodge a complaint. Mr. Pratt – I agree and I did explain to him that the next time the dog is seen that he should contact the dog officer. Mr. Chaffee – There is a part of the story that I am not quite understanding. When you (Officer Whittemore) answered this complaint, you chased a dog onto their property. Somehow that dog went from being outside the fence, outside the house, outside the pen into your house. Does that dog have the ability to go in and out as it pleases – Do you have a dog door? So how did the dog get back into the house? Mrs. Chandler – I told you my granddaughter knew she wasn't supposed to be out and she opened the door and put her in. Mr. Chaffee – She was in the house the whole time you were sleeping? Mrs. Chandler – No, my granddaughter let her out. I was sleeping. My granddaughter lives next door. Mr. Chaffee – Did she see the dog officer chasing the dog and let her in? The dog was in the house when the dog officer came because I said I didn't understand what she was talking about because the dog is right here. Mr. Chaffee – So she chased a dog that looked like your dog. Mrs. Chandler – No she must have ...(Mr. Chandler - She can't answer that question....your putting words in her mouth.) Mr. Chaffee – You told me the dog was in the house. Mrs. Chandler – She was in the house. Mrs. Whittemore – I also saw someone let the dog in the back door before I approached their front door. Mr. Chaffee – I'm curious how we got from the dog being out and you chasing it ... unless we have imposter dogs. Mrs. Chandler – She's always good with our grandkids....she's not a Pit Bull and no kids I know are scared of her. Lola is 3 ½ years old. Mrs. Parsons – Being a dog owner myself, usually dogs are good with the grandchildren and the family kids. Dogs when they are puppies you have to socialize them. My dog thinks everyone is friendly, he thinks every human being is a good person. Things like this happen and it's not the dog's fault per se, it's the owner's responsibility to make sure that it doesn't happen. Mrs. Chandler – I wouldn't have let the dog go out. Mrs. Parsons – I understand that. I'm sorry, I wasn't up I was in bed sleeping. Mrs. Parsons – Is there any way that you can lock that door so your grandchild can't accidentally let her out? Mrs. Chandler – Oh yeah, I can lock it. I just didn't lock it that morning. I don't usually lock it when I'm home, I didn't know she was coming over. Mrs. Parsons – The other homeowners have the right not to have a strange dog in their yards. Mrs. Chandler – I understand that. Mrs. Parsons – You have to do something to that doorway that will prevent someone else

from accidentally letting her out. Mr. Chandler – If she is let out the cellar door she is in the fenced in area. People can still come in the back door and she can't get out. I didn't put a gate in the fence. Mrs. Chandler – I'll admit that she barks at strangers and is a little hyper the way those dogs kind of are. She doesn't bite; I've never seen these people that say she bit them. I never had any proof that she bit them. Mr. Valanzola – I have letters....Mrs. Chandler – You have letters but do you have anything from the hospital? If I got bit by a dog I'd go have it looked at. Mr. Chandler – If I'd been bitten I'd want to know if they had their rabies shot or not. We never even have that question asked. Mr. Valanzola – One of the issues before us last December and the prior board made it quite clear that if we came back up here we would have to take action. You put us in a difficult position here. The dog did get loose this one time that we know was reported. We're in a real difficult spot here. Whether you think the dog is small and harmless or whatever, as Mr. Chaffee & Mrs. Parsons say a small dog is going to be frightening to a small child. Not so much to an adult but it could intimidate a small child. Mrs. Parsons – Small dogs are more aggressive. Mrs. Chandler – “She broke the lease law,” that is what Patty said to me. She never said anything to me about the dog was trying to bite somebody. When I got the letter that was what was on here. I'm sorry it happened; I wish it didn't ... believe me. It's up to you what you want to do. Mr. Chandler – We are 99% perfect in what we have done. Something is going to happen no matter how good you are. The dog could dig under the fence but the dog isn't a digger. Mrs. Whittemore – I just don't like the fact that when the dog goes after people they just stand at the door and watch it happen. I have two reports by the Robbins & David DeCourcy. Mrs. Parsons – Could I make a suggestion? Would you be willing to let the dog officer take a look at the yard to see if there is any way that this could be prevented from happening again? Mrs. Chandler – Yes, I would like her to come over.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to close hearing

Second: Mrs. Parsons

Vote: 3-0 (Recusal) Mr. Pratt and Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon

Mr. Chaffee – I would like to have this taken under advisement until Patty has a chance to meet with the Chandler's to see if we can prevent this happening in the future. We did make it very clear that this was not going to be entertained one more time and passed off to a third time. If you (Patty) see something that can prevent this in the future ... we'll wait for your recommendation. Mrs. Parsons – I would just like to say in a matter like this, what happens is your dog is put to death. Dogs are usually an integral part of people's families but it's up to owners of the dog to make sure that it just never happens again. I would hate to be putting your dog to death for something that the dog itself is not responsible for. I would suggest obedience school.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to take under advisement until Animal Control Officer has a chance to meet with the Chandlers to see if we can prevent this in the future

Second: Mrs. Parsons

Vote: 3-0 (Recusal) Mr. Pratt and Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon

Mr. Plante – I will put this to be continued under Unfinished Business at the next Selectmen's Meeting.

Mr. Pratt and Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon rejoined the meeting.

A. MINUTES

1. Minutes of Open Session – March 7, 2005

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 3-0-2 (Mrs. Parsons and Mrs. O'Brien McKinnon abstaining)

2. Minutes of Open Session – March 21, 2005

Motion: Mr. Pratt to approve with two corrections

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Vote: 3-0-2 (Mrs. Parsons and Mrs. O'Brien McKinnon abstaining)

3. Minutes of Open Session – April 5, 2005

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 3-0-2 (Mrs. Parsons and Mrs. O'Brien McKinnon abstaining)

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to table minutes 4 – 9 until next meeting

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0

B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Open Warrant - Special Town Meeting

Mr. Valanzola – We are recommending that the warrant be open from August 22, 2005 until the close of business on September 16, 2005. This is for our Special Town Meeting on October 24, 2005 to address our budget situation. Mr. Plante – Any other articles that are put in have to be of an emergency nature – a paragraph is required at the bottom explaining what the emergency is. If the emergency is not adequate, it will not be allowed on the warrant. It should primarily be of a financial nature. Mr. Valanzola – Do we have any idea right now where we are at? Mr. Plante – Eric and I are going to sit down and crunch some numbers on Thursday. It appears that we are somewhere between \$700-\$800,000 short at this point. Eric and I spoke today and he said that the receipts for fiscal year 2005 (which are real estate, excise, etc.) did not come in as well as expected so we may have an issue there as well.

**Motion: Mr. Chaffee to Open Warrant August 22, 2005 until close of
Business on September 16, 2005**

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0

B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Continued)

3. Internet Policy

BOS had discussion regarding instituting the Internet Policy. Questions were raised by Fire and Police regarding the Town Administrator having to approve the purchase of all software. Mr. Plante suggested working on this language as he feels the Town Accountant is more involved and more of the IT person at the Town Hall. We can work on this but I would like to see some document by next month. Mr. Valanzola – I think the only issue you would have with purchasing software would be the licensing issues if you were putting it on certain amounts of machines. Mr. Plante – I don't think Eric or I have the knowledge or expertise on what is out there in law enforcement equipment. I will run some language by the two Chiefs and get you another draft. Maybe we can approve something next month. Mr. Pratt – Could we actually adopt this. Why can't we amend it as we go along and get something in place now? Mr. Valanzola – Actually it's fairly comprehensive. Mr. Plante – Mr. Chairman, I did not write this. This was written by the wonderful volunteer Internet Committee who works for nothing. They do a terrific job and I hope they are listening so kudos to them. Mr. Pratt just let me clean that up a little bit and bring it back in two weeks. Mr. Chaffee – I would ask for 3.4 storage. We would probably want to put something in relating to files that are not town files being stored on these computers. These should be only personnel files not personal files. Other than that it looked pretty good.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to table until next meeting

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0

4. Joint Appointment – Planning Board

Bob Baker (Chairman – Planning Board) – Requested that this be tabled for two weeks (if not longer) probably after the holiday. We have two people who have applied. With everyone on vacation (we have 2 members on vacation this week that I was not aware of) I think we should wait until September. Mr. Baker discussed with BOS dates that would be acceptable. BOS agreed that it is difficult with summer vacations to get people and with an extension we may possibly get even more applicants. Mrs. Parsons – We gave them a deadline, we got two people and now to say that the deadline has to be extended is kind of unfair to them. They got their names in and others didn't seem to be interested or on vacation or whatever. This was discussed at the last meeting. Mr. Chaffee – I have no strong feelings either way. Mrs. Parsons – I don't mind putting it off but I feel it is unfair to extend the deadline.

**Motion: Mr. Chaffee to set hearing for appointment – September 19, 2005
and deadline for applications will be Friday, September 16, 2005**

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 4-1 (Mrs. Parsons opposed)

B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Continued)

5. Annual Appoints (Continued) – ZBA

Alternate Member ZBA – Applicant Alan McPhee spoke regarding his previous experience on the Planning Board. Mrs. Parsons – Recalled that he had to step down because of work related issues. Mr. McPhee – I have a new job now a more stable schedule.

Motion: Mrs. Parsons – To appoint Alan McPhee as an Alternate Member – ZBA

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Announcement – Capital Planning Committee

Mr. Valanzola – As most of you know, a little over a year ago we passed an article for the formation of the Capital Planning Committee. The initial appointments will be:

BOS – 1 for 3 years, 1 for 1 year

FinCom – 1 for 3 years, 1 for 1 year

Moderator – 1 for 3 years, 1 for 1 year

School Com. – 1 for 2 years

The Town Administrator attached some legislation that establishes the Capital Planning Committee. Mr. Valanzola referred to Chapter 55. At this point we just want to open this up to applications. Mr. Plante – I think we should open it up with no date. The sooner they apply the better the chance to be appointed. They should apply to the appointing authority that they want to represent. So again:

BOS has 2

Finance Committee has 2

Moderator has 2

School Committee has 1

We would like to get this committee going and the reason is that one of their responsibilities will be to develop a Capital Improvement Plan (this would basically be a 5-year plan). The initial work on that would be rather extensive because they will have to go to all the departments in Town and do a survey as to what all their capital needs are. They will then have to prioritize them and program them over the five year period. Then prioritize them within each of those five years. I would hope that if we could get the group together and going that they would be prepared for the May 2006 Town Meeting to be an active board working. They would be making, I assume, the motion on the floor for anything that is going to be recommended for the Town Meeting. Obviously, they will work very closely with the Finance Committee. I think it's going to be very critical too that hopefully we will get a couple of individuals who maybe

C. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

1. Announcement – Capital Planning Committee (Continued)

have some experience in this type of thing. It will be important that they have a good strong chairman and vice-chairman to lead them. The first year or two are going to be critical to the success of this committee. This is a permanent committee....it is going to go on forever. Mr. Valanzola – I'm very excited about this. I think the Town has needed this for a long time. Mr. Chaffee – Are we sending out notification to the FinCom, Moderator & School Committee? Mr. Plante – I will get a memo out to them in the morning. I wanted to get it on the air tonight. We can take the applications at the Selectmen's Office if that is the easiest way to do it and disperse them out. Mr. Chaffee – Isn't it best for us to look at a deadline rather than leaving it open ended? Mr. Plante – As with most things, people who are interested will get their applications in quickly. Mr. Chaffee – Should we set the first meeting in October to make our appointments? Mr. Plante – You can for your board but not for the others. Mr. Chaffee – We could ask them to look at that target date so that at the end of October we have a committee ready to go. Mr. Plante – That would be a good time too because October is when the budget goes out and the department heads start working on their budgets.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee that we publicize the opening for two (2) people for the Capital Planning Committee – deadline Monday, October 3, 2005. Application deadline -September 30, 2005

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0

2. Public Hearing – Pole Relocation – Mass Electric

There was an extensive number of abutters and Mass Electric was not available tonight. We will open the hearing and put it off.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to open hearing

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to continue hearing to September 6, 2005

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0

3. Abington – Target Store discussion

Mr. Chaffee gave an overview of what was going on with the Target Store in Abington and what concerns Rockland has. It will be a nice place to shop, however, the flip side will be a major traffic problem. I think the best way to

look at this is to look at the traffic on Market Street the day of the fire at China Plaza. When the Target Store opens...Abington has done a great deal of work to widen out in front of Stop & Shop, make more turning lanes (left & right), turning lanes at 58 & 123 but that's it. Whatever happens to traffic going to Rockland is anybody's guess. We are going to have a real serious problem on Market Street. I would like to recommend to this board that we do a couple of things. The first thing we do is to send a letter to District 5 informing them that we have a major problem with the proposed Target Store and with Walgreens. That light at Walgreens has done nothing to make life good; it's done nothing but make life bad for the people who live down there. Mr. Valanzola – I would like to separate these issues. I do agree the light by Walgreen is a huge mistake, no matter what time I go by there it's backed up. Mr. Chaffee – We could do two separate letters. Mrs. Parsons – Hingham Street is an issue too. She gave an overview of the traffic situation on Hingham Street. I would like to include Hingham and Webster Street in the letter to District 5. Mr. Chaffee – If we do that it would be a third letter. Traffic studies and sewerage were also discussed. Andy Triantaffelw explained his concerns and the concerns of the residents of Pineview Condo's. Mr. Chaffee explained that he found out that Market Street (123) everyone thinks of it as a state highway. Guess what, it's not! It ends at the Abington line all the way down to the Sovereign Bank that is all Abington Highway. Somehow, they took and cut that part of 123 out of the state highway group so that they could do things on that road that you can't do otherwise. For example: placement of street lights, etc. Madelyn MacDonald – I sent a letter to District 5 on July 12th – letter (petition) was read. Copy of letter was given to BOS. There has been no response to this letter. Chief Sammon – Regarding public safety it is difficult getting trucks around the corner at Walgreens on Market Street. Maybe we should have a traffic study done there and also at the Abington line. Mrs. Parsons – Could we have that on Hingham Street too, because that is a safety issue as well.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to send three letters to District 5: (1) Walgreen's Traffic signal (2) Proposed Target Store (3) Hingham Street

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0

Mr. Plante – In those letters may we specifically ask for them to send someone down here and ask for a meeting to discuss all three issues. Mr. Chaffee – Suggested that Officer Ashton be present at these meetings. Officer Ashton – Yes, he would like to be present. He also gave an overview of his observations at the Walgreen's lights and what he had suggested at the Planning Board Meeting when this was originally discussed. Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon – Explained the difficulty she is having getting out of her driveway on Plain Street. Traffic issues were discussed by Officer Ashton, Deputy Chief Llewellyn, Kevin Henderson, Bob Baker and the BOS.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to send a letter to the Abington BOS voicing our concerns about the traffic issue regarding the Target Store with carbon copy to Planning Board

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0

C. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

4. Promotion Assistant Town Accountant

Mr. Valanzola read letter from Town Accountant Eric Hart requesting that Diane McClure be promoted from her current position to the position of Assistant Town Accountant effective Monday, August 22, 2005.

Motion: Mrs. Parsons to appoint Diane McClure as Assistant Town Accountant

Second: Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon

Vote: 4-0-1 (Mr. Chaffee had stepped out of room)

5. Common Victualler – Tuscany Express

Anthony Columbus spoke regarding his plans for Tuscany Express (the old I Scream U Scream). He is planning on making it an upscale sub shop.

Motion: Mr. Pratt to approve Tuscany Express' Common Vic. License

Second: Mrs. Parsons

Vote: 5-0

6. Automatic Amusement License – Bella's

Mr. Barnes explained that a Merrit Megatouch machine is sports trivia.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve Automatic Amusement License – Bella's

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0

7. Common Victualler – Brown Bag Deli

Motion: Mr. Pratt to approve Common Vic. License – Brown Bag Deli

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Vote: 5-0

8. All Alcohol License – One Day Trueman's Catering

Expiration dates on insurance has expired. Mr. Plante will call and ask for updated copy before license is released.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to approve subject to receiving updated insurance

Second: Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon

Vote: 5-0

D. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

On August 5th, myself, Mr. Chaffee, Mr. Pratt and Mr. Cucinotta went to a meeting with the Lt. Governor to primarily discuss educational issues. Administrative burdens that the Dept. of Education has put on the school districts over-burdening them with mandates, etc. The complaints from the school departments were that they are putting all this extra requirements on them while they are getting less money and reducing staff. Naturally the discussion deteriorated (as it always does) to money. There was a great deal of talk about money and support to school districts. I'm not clear as to whether anything actually got accomplished. It turned out to be more of a gripe session with the Lt. Governor. Mr. Pratt – I think it's going to depend upon what the Lt. Governor decides to do with the information. It was a very well attended meeting. Mr. Plante – I certainly think that she got the message that the State is not funding adequately for education.

Earlier we discussed the legislation that was approved for the Capital Planning Committee. Also on August 3rd three other legislative items were approved. One of them was putting my position in the charter; changing the name of the Tax Collector to the Town Collector and changing the formula for the quorum for the Finance Committee. I would like to thank Senator Morrissey, Representative Nyman and Governor Romney's offices in helping us get this through quickly and efficiently this year.

Mr. Plante has a letter from the Plymouth County Commissioners asking to hold a meeting in Rockland on Wednesday, September 28th at 6:00PM. We have already assigned them this room and moved the ZBA meeting to the lower conference room. In the last paragraph of the letter they asked, "It would be helpful if you would grant our request for the meeting, as well as giving us the names of the citizens to be recognized and do some kind of brief history of the Community work they did for the Town." If the BOS has anyone they would like to have the county recognize...this would be your opportunity. Mr. Chaffee – Actually the paragraph above describes in more detail what they are looking for, "we can honor five or six citizens of the Town of Rockland who are not currently employed, but have done community work for the town."

I received a Park Department letter regarding surplus equipment (1973 lawnmower) They can no longer keep it running and need to declare it surplus.

Motion: Mr. Pratt to declare the Park Departments 1973 lawnmower surplus equipment.

Second: Mr. Chaffee

Vote: 5-0

E. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Valanzola read the following correspondence:

E. CORRESPONDENCE (Continued)

Letter from David Marrero letting the BOS know how much he appreciated Andy Triantaffelow (Conservation Commission) inspecting his property on Sunday.

Letter from Jeff Najarian regarding this years "Tri-Town Veterans Day Parade". This year it will be held in Rockland. The kick-off meeting is to be held at 7:00PM at the VFW Hall at 22 Church Street. An invitation is extended for interested people to attend.

Letter from Old Colony Auxiliary regarding Kathleen Paulding (4th grade teacher retired) who was presented a plaque for Teacher of the Year for grades Kindergarten through grade 5. They would appreciate it if the BOS would like to issue a citation to Mrs. Paulding.

Letter from Hope King thanking everyone who responded to the speeding/road rage incident on Lincoln Road. The Police's quick response, care and concern for the residents and the kids playing in their yards is appreciated.

F. OPEN FORUM

Mr. Chaffee – Former Chief Tanzi was operated on for a heart attack on Sunday at Brigham & Women's Hospital. He is stable and doing well. We will keep him in our prayers. Two people who received Rockland's Best Awards from us recently passed away: (Joe Myles Angeley who passed away August 5th and Imelda Simmons who passed away July 5th) please keep them in your prayers also. Next month we are going to be talking about the cable TV license. This is the best opportunity to get something from them when they are looking for a transfer.

Mrs. Parsons – The only thing I have is that at the last meeting I said I would apologize to the board if Weymouth did not receive \$32 million and they did not so I apologize to all. They did receive \$13 million plus they got an extra \$1.4 million for Mayor Madden's budget. Did we ever get anything in writing from LNR? Mr. Plante – Yes, they were holding off pending the signature drive. I have been in contact with Mr. Ryan and they will get that done.

Mr. Valanzola – Regarding the Adelphia – Comcast transfer. One of my goals when I got on the Cable Committee was that Harron did such an awful job and as bad as they were we couldn't move them out. I do think Adelphia has done a pretty good job since then and I think Comcast will bring us some different services and upgrades that we have been looking for. We will probably do it the second meeting. We do have two new members so I want to give them an opportunity to get their feet wet and get back into it. We still have openings in that committee if anyone is interested.

Kids will be going back to school in a couple of weeks so keep your eyes out for them.

Mr. Pratt – School starts the week of September 6th you want to be careful and keep an eye out for them. September 10th starts soccer season. If anyone is interested in joining the Rockland Youth Soccer, you can look us up online @Rocklandyouthsoccer.com. I also wanted to send “well wishes” to former Chief Ralph Tanzi. We want to keep him in our prayers. I also want to commend Chief Sammon and the Fire Department for saving the surrounding buildings during the China Plaza fire. They did an exceptional job. One firefighter was injured (I’m sure the Chief will speak on this) he had a couple of bruised ribs. I want to thank all of the other Fire Departments who assisted the Rockland Fire Department. You did a great job.

Mrs. O’Brien-McKinnon – The Rockland Historical Commission is having a first annual flea market on Saturday, August 27th in the Rockland High School Parking lot from 10-3. They are selling parking spaces (2 for \$25). If you are interested you can get a hold of Ray Hebert @781-878-2433. The money will go towards restoring the 1745 House.

Chief Sammon – I too would like to commend my men and the surrounding towns for their assistance. *(Too far away from microphone-unintelligible-Fire Department roof was discussed)*

Fire Department and Library roof replacements were discussed. Mr. Plante suggested hiring a roofing consultant (JCH Consultants). We had them when the Town Hall roof was done. She did the whole thing for us including the bid, it cost us a little extra but it was done properly. This is something that we may need to consider. We have a leak in the roof at the Town Hall also but it is under warranty, it should not cost us anything.

Chief Sammon – Asked status on bucket truck. Mrs. Parsons – Have you heard about that truck yet. I inquired about getting payment for the police from the apprehension of those four people on the base. I was told that they were a proprietary jurisdiction and that they by law can’t pay and they are entitled to whatever service everyone else gets. I have written a letter to Senator Kerry’s Office and I was wondering if the board would send a letter too because it looks like they are backing out of what they said they were going to do. Mr. Chaffee – Who is backing out? Mrs. Parsons – The Navy. Weymouth received \$1.3 million for police and fire – they did not have to provide any equipment, they didn’t have to provide the station they just had to provide couple of men to patrol. But we can’t get paid for the actual apprehension of the people on the base. I did ask John Llewellyn to keep track of the cost and it did cost us. The availability of services are not free to the taxpayers of Rockland, they pay for those services. When the budgets get bad services are not as available as they usually are, but the Navy would like it for free.

Motion: Mrs. Parsons to send a letter to Senator Kerry’s Office asking that we receive payment for police & fire as well as what it is going to cost for the apprehension of those 4 people

Second: Mr. Chaffee

NO VOTE

Discussion as to whether this is Tri-Town or Navy property. Mr. Chaffee will call tomorrow and we will hold off sending this letter.

Chief Sammon – Apologized for not mentioning the police and highway departments for their assistance.

Andy Triantaffelow – Received an email about the land behind Mr. Corvi's property. It will now be Maplewood Development. In that property we were advised that there is a 17th century British Out-Post Fort there. Mrs. Parsons – That would be a question for the Historical Commission. Andy - I left a copy for the Conservation and Historical Commission. Mrs. Parsons read the email. Barry Ashton suggested that Mr. Triantaffelow bring this to the ZBA meeting because they are having hearing on this and they are the permit granting authority on the 40B...it would probably be the best way to start it.

Officer Barry Ashton – Hingham Street needs to be repaved. Originally this was supposed to be done starting next Monday. Apparently there is a scheduling problem with the contractor (a fire). Unfortunately it will be starting on September 6th (the first day of school). It was never intended to go that way. This is about a \$500,000 project that is coming out of Chapter 90 money, PWED money and sewer money because the sewer department did put two new sewer lines down there to replace stuff that had already been there. Some people have asked why we can't do this at night. Night would cost an extra \$237,000 because all the people would have to be paid overtime and the plant would have to be kept open at night. I have been working with Bob Corvi and I have a seventeen page plan on how we are going to do this. I was on vacation but was told that there was controversy on the sign out there that said "Road Closed". That was my suggestion. It will be changed tomorrow morning to read "Road Work". Hours of work will be 6:00AM-4:00PM, these hours may change. Details were given of the detour. Street closures were discussed. It is anticipated it will take about a week to do this then it's going to take another six days to raise all the structures (gas gates, water gates, sewer gates & manholes) but we anticipate keeping the road open during this time. There will be preliminary paving to level out the street but the final paving is a problem because we cannot allow traffic on it. If you put a rut in final pavement it will ruin it. I will be approaching business in the area to let them know when the shutdown will be. Are we going to make people unhappy...yes. It's going to be a living nightmare. We will have an officer down there at all day. We want to get this done as quickly and painlessly as possible. We will do the absolute best we can. Mr. Valanzola – How long before you can drive on the new asphalt? Mr. Ashton – Not until it cools down to 165 degrees. We will have water trucks down there to spray the asphalt to lower the temperature. Mr. Valanzola - Beginning to end, how long is this going to take? Mr. Ashton – We are talking about three (3) weeks work. It's going to be a nightmare; there is no question about it.

Mr. Corvi – I want to thank two people. Chief Donovan for assigning Barry Ashton to do this. Barry has put a lot of work into this. We were trying to get Belmont and Taunton Streets done before school started but because of the fire we will have to do those later. I can't say enough about the Rockland Police Department they have really helped us out with this detail.

Motion: Mr. Chaffee to adjourn at 9:25 PM and enter Executive Session for purposes of potential litigation and not to reconvene.

Second: Mr. Pratt

Vote: 5-0 Mr. Chaffee-yes, Mrs. Parsons-yes, Mr. Pratt-yes, Mrs. O'Brien-McKinnon-yes and Mr. Valanzola-yes

LAWRENCE J. CHAFFEE
VICE-CHAIRMAN

BRADLEY A. PLANTE
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

